

BEFORE THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS  
FRANK D. REEVES MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
2000-14<sup>th</sup> STREET, N.W., SUITE 420  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009  
(202) 671-0550

IN THE MATTER OF	)	DATE: October 1, 2003
	)	
Carmen R. Johnson	)	DOCKET NO.: 03F-207
Attorney Advisor	)	
Department of Health	)	
5811 Old Crain Highway	)	
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772	)	

**ORDER**

**Statement of the Case**

This matter came before the Office of Campaign Finance (hereinafter OCF) Office of General Counsel following a determination by its Public Information Records Management Division, that pursuant to the D.C. Code §1-1106.02 (2001 Edition), Carmen R. Johnson, Attorney Advisor, Department of Health, failed to timely file, a Financial Disclosure Statement for calendar year 2002, on or before May 15, 2003 as required by D.C. Official Code §1-1106.02 and also failed to file on or before the OCF sanctioned extended filing deadline of June 19, 2003.

By Notices of Hearing, Statements of Violations and Orders of Appearance dated August 11, 2003 and September 4, 2003, OCF ordered Carmen R. Johnson (hereinafter respondent), to appear at scheduled hearings on August 26, 2003 and September 16, 2003 and show cause why she should not be found in violation of the D.C. Campaign Finance Reform and Conflict of Interest Act of 1974, as amended by D.C. Official Code §§1-1101.01 et seq., and fined accordingly.

**Summary of Evidence**

OCF alleges that the respondent failed to timely file the statutorily required Financial Disclosure Statement for calendar year 2002, on or before June 19, 2003.

On September 16, 2003, respondent filed an affidavit with OCF dated September 11, 2003 stating her failure to timely file was an oversight; that she was unaware of the passed filing deadline; and that she did not expect the form to be sent to her home. Respondent asserted that because she did not expect to receive mail at her home on this matter, the notices were either mislaid or misplaced. Respondent further stated she

would not be able to appear at the scheduled hearing as she is scheduled to give a work-related presentation. Respondent filed a fully executed Financial Disclosure Statement with OCF on September 16, 2003.

**Findings of Fact**

Having reviewed the allegations and the record herein, I find:

1. Respondent timely filed a Financial Disclosure Statement with OCF in 2001 for calendar year 2000.
2. Respondent was required to file a Financial Disclosure Statement with OCF for calendar year 2002, on or before June 19, 2003.
3. Respondent filed the required Financial Disclosure Statement on September 16, 2003.
4. Respondent did not expect the FDS form to be mailed to her home, and suspected that it was either mislaid or misplaced.
5. Respondent further asserted that she was not aware the filing deadline had passed.
6. Respondent has no history of prior filing delinquencies.
7. Respondent's explanation for the filing delinquency is credible in that she asserted she was not expecting notices to be mailed to her home, and that the notices were either mislaid or misplaced.
8. Respondent is currently in compliance with the statute.

**Conclusions of Law**

Based upon the record provided by OCF, I therefore conclude:

1. Respondent violated D.C. Official Code §1-1106.02.
2. The penalty established at D.C. Official Code §1-1103.05(b)(3), and 3DCMR §§3711.2(aa), 3711.2 and 3711.4 for failure to timely file a Financial Disclosure Statement required by D.C. Official Code §1-1106.02 is a fine of \$50.00 per day for each business day subsequent to the due date.

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3. In accordance with D.C. Official Code §1-1103.05(b)(3), the respondent may be fined a maximum of \$2,000.00 for failing to timely file a Financial Disclosure Statement.
4. For good cause shown pursuant to 3DCMR §3711.6, the Director of Campaign Finance (Director) may modify, rescind, dismiss or suspend any fine.
5. Respondent's explanation for failing to timely file, coupled with her filing history, constitutes good cause for suspension of the fine.

**Recommendation**

In view of the foregoing and information included in the record, I hereby recommend that the Director suspend the imposition of the fine in this matter.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jean Scott Diggs**  
**Hearing Officer**

**Concurrence**

In view of the foregoing, I hereby concur with the Recommendation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kathy S. Williams**  
**General Counsel**

**ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR**

**IT IS ORDERED** that the fine be hereby suspended in this matter.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Cecily E. Collier-Montgomery**  
**Director**

**SERVICE OF ORDER**

This is to certify that I have served a true copy of the foregoing Order.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Rose Rice**  
**Legal Assistant**

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to 3DCMR §3711.5 (1999), any fine imposed by the Director shall become effective on the 16<sup>th</sup> day following the issuance of a decision and order, if the respondent does not request an appeal of this matter. If applicable, within 10 days of the effective date of this order, please make a check or money order payable to the D.C. Treasurer, c/o Office of Campaign Finance, Suite 420, 2000-14<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.